

FIELD BUILDING
40-44 Crown Street
New Haven
New Haven County
Connecticut

HABS NO. CT-417

HABS
CONN,
5-NEWHA,
48-

PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDING SURVEY

FIELD BUILDING

HABS No. CT-417

HABS
CONN,
S-NEWHA,
48-
(Page 1)

Location: 40-44 Crown Street, New Haven,
New Haven County, Connecticut

USGS New Haven, Connecticut Quadrangle
Universal Transverse Mercator Coordinates
18.673720.4574330

Significance: The Field Building was constructed during an era when existing 19th century residential tenements were being replaced by commercial buildings. It is significant because it is part of a small group of 19th and early 20th century commercial buildings still extant in downtown.

Description: The main building is a four-story, brick commercial building. The facade above the street level is three bays wide. Three-part windows appear in the center bay and paired windows in the end bays. The bays are divided by two giant pilasters and enclosed by a large cut-stone surround with foot scrolls. A rounded cast-iron pediment appears above the entry. According to building permits, the storefront at street level was altered in 1939 and 1970, the cornice removed in 1941, and some 4th floor masonry removed in a 1961 remodelling.

A one-story, flat-roofed brick addition is attached to the south elevation (rear) of the Field Building. The color of the brick and construction pattern match the west elevation of the main building, identically. Every fifth stringcourse is laid in a header-stretcher-header pattern and the windows have segmental arch headers of vertically laid bricks.

History: In 1913, Samuel Z. Field bought the vacant lot at 40-42-44 Crown Street from Charles H. Webb, a real estate broker (deeds: v.698, p.507). According to building permit #7216, Field commissioned the prolific New Haven architectural firm, Brown & VonBeren in 1913 to build the Field Building on the site. The S. Z. Field Printing Co. is listed in the 1913 city directory at 44 Crown Street.

The one-story rear addition appears on a 1915 update of the 1901 Sanborn Fire Insurance Company map. Based on this evidence and its identical brickwork to the main block, it would seem that Field had the one-story rear addition constructed

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between 1913-15.

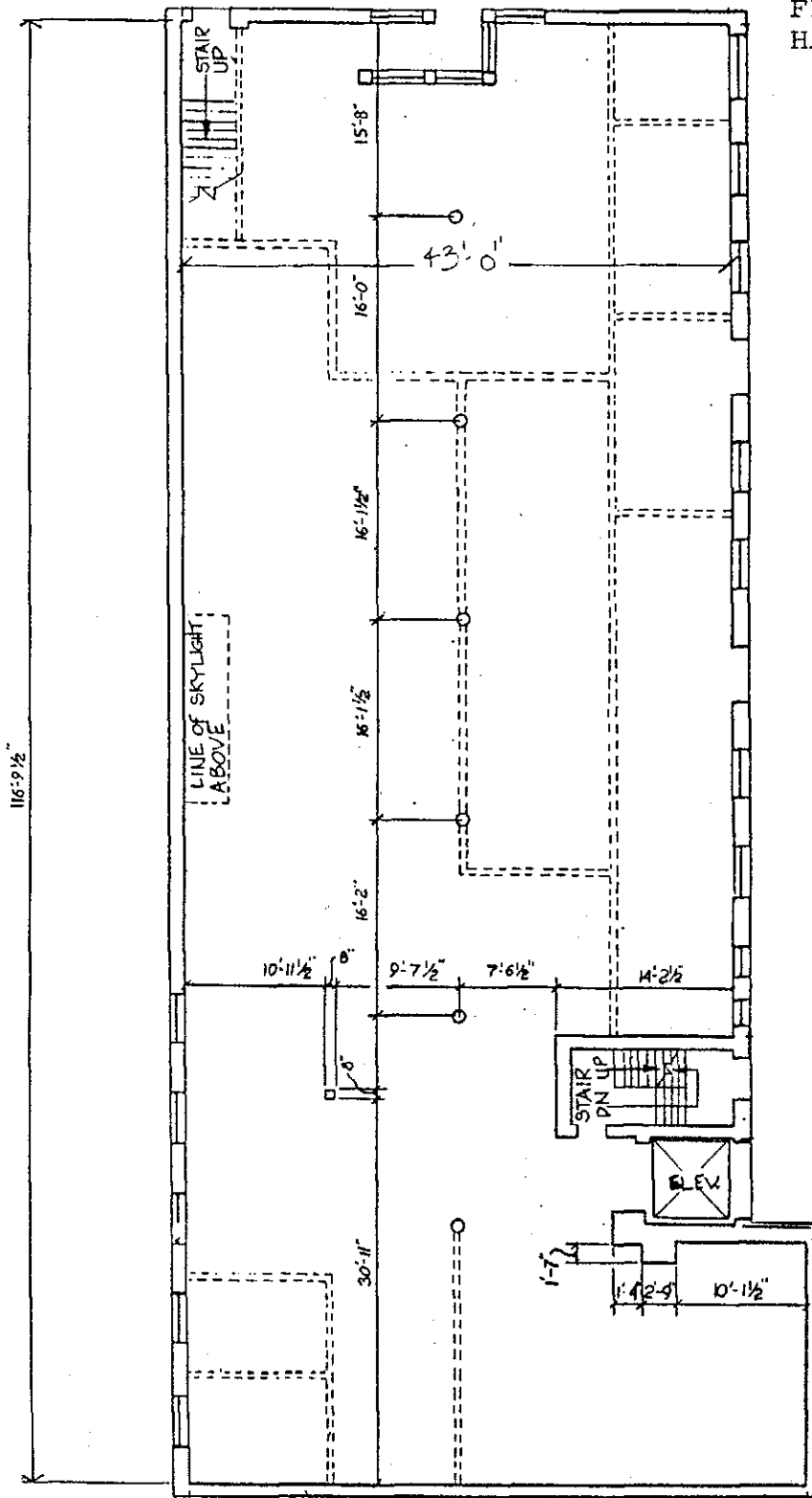
Following the death of S. Z. Field, the Field Building was sold to Carleton S. Read in 1939 (deeds: v.1375, p.348). The S. Z. Field Printing Company still occupies 40-44 Crown in 1990.

Sources:

9th Square National Register Historic District
Nomination, 1984
New Haven Historic Resources Inventory
New Haven City Building Department permits
New Haven City Directories
New Haven Land Records deeds
New Haven Colony Historical Society:
DANA Collection: v.17, p.121; v.38, p.6
1880, 1888, 1901-23, 1911 maps

Historian:

Kathleen A. Maher and Preston Maynard
New Haven Preservation Trust
May 20, 1990



FIRST FLOOR PLAN

40-44 CROWIN STREET NEW HAVEN CT

[illegible]

40-44 CROWN STREET NEW HAVEN CT



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